Communication Systems

Instructor Information

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Course Description

Communication Systems is a course that specializes in how people use modern communication systems to exchange information and ideas. These systems allow people to grow intellectually, express feelings, and better understand diverse cultures. This course explores the application of the tools, materials, and techniques used to design, produce, use, and asses systems of communication. Instructional strategies introduce students to the world of communication technology through a variety of means including: presentations, discussions, and laboratory activities. Students will produce graphic and electronic media as they apply communication technologies. Most activities are designed for small group work since communication takes place between two parties or machines.

• Recommended Grade Level: 9-12
• Recommended Prerequisite: Technology (ML), Technology Systems
• Credits: 1 semester course, maximum 1 semester
• Counts as a Directed Elective or Elective for the General, Core 40, Core 40 with Academic Honors and Core 40 with Technical Honors diplomas

Required Materials
- Internet-capable device

- Reliable high-speed Internet access
- List all materials necessary to complete this course (including books, webcam, microphone, etc.).
- Tip: Link text to outside URL (library, Amazon, etc.) for easier student purchase or rental.
- Other required reading will be made available via the Wayne Learning Hub.

Course Description/Objectives

In this class we want to look at how technology has changed, and will continue to change our world. We will focus on the following areas: *biotechnology, construction, communication, manufacturing, nanotechnology, and the Internet.* If you want to know more about technology education you should look in the Overview of Technology Education file in the Welcome to Technology Education folder. Areas will be grouped together and the outline will be an introduction, exploring vocabulary, terms, and concepts, and then activities relating to each area. It is important to understand that completing all activities will be required. It will be much more difficult to pass if they are not completed.

In addition, active participation is required and failure to do so will also make it difficult to pass. Online education is not an easy way out! While it does differ from the traditional classroom, more is required of the individual student. Review the Frequently Asked Questions file in the Welcome to Technology Education folder to make sure you understand all of the expectations. Due dates not met will be a deduction of grade and there will be a limit on how late it may be before it becomes a zero grade. Emergencies will be addressed individually. Writing will be required to be formal, proper grammar, spelling, font, and form. A few mistakes are acceptable, but a lot of them will disqualify the grade. You have spell check, use it! When contacting a classmate or group, informal writing (text slang) may be used. In this new world you will be required to be capable of jumping back and forth between these forms.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Define how modern technology is used to communicate and how it is impacting our lives and the world in general
- Identify the tools, materials, and techniques used to design, produce, use, and asses systems of communication
- Critique how technology and systems of communications are used in our society for good or bad purposes
- Discuss how technology and systems of communications are used in our society for good or bad purposes and the merit of different types of communication systems

Student Expectations:

Attendance and Assignments
Students will be required to complete and submit all assignments online via the Wayne Learning Hub. In certain instances you will be asked to work with other students and those group members will need your participation. Please communicate with your teacher frequently.

Students may log into the Wayne Learning Hub on their own time and work at their own pace. Students are expected to log in and work a minimum of 5 days a week. All assignments and the final are due by the end of the semester.

Resubmitting Assignments
If you are asked to resubmit an assignment for a higher grade, you will have 48 hours from the time you receive feedback to do so. Students who are not on pace according to the pacing guide will not be able to resubmit work for a higher grade.

Use of Help-Seeking Strategies
Students are encouraged to use "help-seeking" strategies, such as connecting with other classmates via threaded discussions, emailing or calling the teacher, etc. whenever possible.

Grading Scale

Description	Value on a 4-Point Scale	Percent Based	Letter Grade
Exemplary	4.00	93-100	A
	3.67	90-92	A-
Proficient	3.33	87-89	B+
	3.00	83-86	B
	2.67	80-82	B-
Progresing	2.33	77-79	C+
	2.00	73-76	C
	1.67	70-72	C-

Danger of Failing	1.65	65-69	D
Failing	0	0-64	F

Online Communication Guidelines

Communication with the Teacher
It is important to remember that while the Internet is available 24 hours a day, your teacher and other students are not. You can expect that your teacher will respond to email messages, texts, or phone calls within 24 hours during the week and may not be able to respond on weekends.

Your success in this course will rely on your ability to communicate with the teacher. It is important to remember that your teacher cannot see the confused, frustrated, or unhappy expressions on your face if you experience problems in the course like they might be able to in a face-to-face environment. You MUST communicate with your teacher so that he/she can help.

Interacting with Others in Class
As you participate in online discussion forums, it is important to demonstrate respect and professionalism. Always communicate in a professional tone whether in private conversation with your teacher or on a public forum with other students.

Policies and Procedures

Administrative Withdrawal and Incomplete Courses
A basic requirement of this course is that you will attend and participate regularly. Keep in touch with me if you are unable to participate or regularly complete assignments. If you stop attending, you will be submitted to the Achieve Virtual office for truancy and subsequent action will be taken.

Incomplete courses will result in receiving an F for the class.

Plagiarism
Cheating and plagiarism are considered very serious offenses by the faculty and staff of Achieve Virtual Education Academy and the M.S.D. of Wayne Township. A student cheating for the first time may receive loss of credit for the assignment. The second offense may result in a failing grade for the course and/or disciplinary action.

Plagiarism is taking the ideas and/or work of someone else and claiming them as your own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas or materials taken from another source is guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty, including copying or collaborating with other students on any assignment, unless otherwise advised, will absolutely not be tolerated.

Pacing Guide

Use this pacing guide as a tool to help you stay organized and complete the course before the end of the course. The following pacing guide is based on the length of a full semester. If you start late, you will have to adjust this guide to complete all assignments before the end of the semester. Your teacher can help you with this.

Week	Lessons to Complete
1	Welcome to Technology/Unit 1: Introduction to Technology
2	Unit 2: Communication and Technology Activities and Photography
3	Unit 3: Internet Applications
4	Unit 4: How the Internet Works
5	Catch up week/Break
6	Unit 5: Photography
7	Unit 6: 3D Design and Modeling (tbd)
8	Unit 7: Animation/Web Design (tbd-under construction)
9	Review & Final Exam
10	
11	
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Proctored Final Exam

Achieve Virtual Education Academy requires a proctored final be administered and passed before course credit can be given to a student. All class assignments must be completed with a passing score before access to the final exam will be given.

Achieve will provide open lab time at Ben Davis High School for students who are local to come in and take their final(s). Students are responsible for setting up a proctored final if they cannot make it to Ben Davis High School during one of those times. Information about how to set up a proctored final will be shared as you complete the course.